

Angie Weible-Jones

January 27, 2002

Renata Hesse
Trial Attorney
Anti-Trust Division
US Department of Justice
601 D Street, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Ms. Hesse:

As an individual who owns her own business, I am very interested in seeing the Microsoft case brought to its end. I congratulate the US Department of Justice for working hard to find a sound way to close this chapter in American legal history.

One of the most amazing things about the technology industry is that we are only just beginning. The innovations and great strides yet to come should be exciting to all of us. However, the costs and risks of innovation are extremely high. Investors and creators must have the confidence and the will to move forward.

When the move was made against Microsoft, it was felt throughout the entire industry. This action coincided with falling technology stocks and loss of investment capital for start-up companies. The entire industry felt the blow and its suffering is detrimental to our nation.

When our economy was booming there was much talk about the New Economy and the leading role technology stocks had in this economy. But this all ended about the time the government threatened Microsoft. This action raised a cloud of uncertainty around the technology industry and many investors decided it was best to wait it out. It is interesting that when technology stocks began to slide, it hurt the entire market. If tech stocks rebound it can only be a positive sign for our economy. Investors may regain their confidence if the government ends its case against Microsoft.

Additionally, when the technology industry slows down it no longer has the freedom to innovate at the level it once did. As a business owner and many others, I am strongly supportive of seeing the Microsoft case brought to an end. It is in all of our best interests.

Sincerely,

Angie Weible-Jones
Angie Weible-Jones

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